Belk is excited to share that we are extending up our global testing matrix to include three of the largest global testing providers for apparel product testing. Beginning 4/02/2018, vendors may choose to conduct apparel product testing with Intertek, BV, or SGS.

**NOTE: Once testing begins, the complete product testing must stay within the same testing provider. Separate lab locations, within the same testing provider, may be used between piece goods and final product testing based on location of manufacture.**

In addition to the added testing service partners, we have made several updates to our Apparel Testing Program. Highlights are provided below:

- Care Instruction Review Policy (effective Nov. 2017) – to provide our customers with an ‘easy care’ product, default care instructions should be followed where possible. Any care, following the default care, no longer requires Belk approval. Vendor may proceed testing directly for those products. See policy for additional details. *Care instructions are no longer required to uploaded in PLM.*
- The three test labs have offered updated competitive pricing and helped to align test packages to industry standards.
- Children’s products now have a more competitively priced Small Parts mechanical test package which includes tension and torque, sharp points, and sharp edges for a single low price.
- Updated safety policy now includes sequin applications on children’s products for size 0-4T.
- Belk’s Restricted Substances List has been updated to meet current policies.
- Belk testing documentation will now be managed through Belk’s Vendor Business Resource (VBR) Portal. The web address is: [https://belk2com.sharepoint.com/sites/PrivateBrands/_layouts/15/guestaccess.aspx?folderid=0ed123b73ce2549599f2f38b3c6c7a5ea&authkey=Ab5iuFBJf5aQrDiyzzS8c&e=d582607df9474953a65e6b9d3f728a2b](https://belk2com.sharepoint.com/sites/PrivateBrands/_layouts/15/guestaccess.aspx?folderid=0ed123b73ce2549599f2f38b3c6c7a5ea&authkey=Ab5iuFBJf5aQrDiyzzS8c&e=d582607df9474953a65e6b9d3f728a2b)
  - Please remember to check the VBR on the 15th of each month for any updates to documentation*

**Key account contacts for each lab:**

**Intertek**

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**BV**

- **BV – Carmelo Manna**
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**SGS**

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